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Department of State

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 030957

E.O. 12356: DECL: 02/02/83
TAGS: CASC (SULLIVAN, JOHN J.)
SUBJECT: JOHN J. SULLIVAN

REF: SAN SALVADOR 872

1. DEPT. HAS INFORMED THE SULLIVAN FAMILY, CONGRESSWOMAN ROUKEMA AND CONGRESSMAN TORRECILLI THAT SUPREME COURT PRESIDENT ZELEDON CASTRILLO HAS NOT YET MADE A DECISION ABOUT ALLOWING THE NUEVO CUSCATLAN REMAINS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE UNITED STATES FOR EXAMINATION. ALL EXPRESSED DISMAY AND ANGER OVER CONTINUED DELAYS.

2. IN A RELATED DEVELOPMENT, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, CLEMENT J. ZABLOCKI, HAS WRITTEN TO THE SECRETARY TO QUOTE REITERATE THAT A DETERMINATION OF MR. SULLIVAN'S FATE AND THE EFFORTS OF THE U.S. AND SALVADORAN GOVERNMENTS TO THAT END, WILL BE ONE IMPORTANT FACTOR INFLUENCING THE ATTITUDE OF MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TOWARD THE RECENT CERTIFICATION OF EL SALVADOR AND TOWARD PROVIDING THAT COUNTRY WITH U.S. ASSISTANCE IN FUTURE YEARS. UNQUOTE. SALVADORAN AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES HAS RECEIVED A COPY OF CHAIRMAN ZABLOCKI'S LETTER AND PRESUMBABLY REPORTED IT TO HIS GOVERNMENT.

3. SULLIVAN FAMILY AND CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES VERY MUCH WANT A DECISION IN THIS MATTER AND ARE INCREASINGLY FRUSTRATED. DEPT. BELIEVES IT IS ALMOST TIME TO ADVISE THE FAMILY AND INTERESTED MEMBERS OF CONGRESS THAT IT DOES NOT APPEAR THE SALVADORAN GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING THE SUPREME COURT, WILL SOON RESOLVE THIS MATTER.

4. REQUESTED ACTION: DEPT. WISHES EMBASSY AGAIN TO APPROACH SALVADORAN GOVERNMENT AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS TO LEARN THE OFFICIAL STATUS OF THE SUPREME COURT'S DELIBERATIONS AND TO URGE A PROMPT AND FAVORABLE DECISION. DAM

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